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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT,

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2004

THIS REPORT PRESENTS THE TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER THREE THEMES:

HEADLINES

BRIEFING

EDITORIAL OPINION

HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL

Verheugen: EU members react to criminalizing adultery -

Milliyet

Adultery a 'bump' on Turkey's EU path - Aksam

Saving Private Bush - Sabah

Americans strike Iraqi children while seeking Zarkawi -

Hurriyet

Israeli FM: Arafat will be exiled soon - Aksam

Terror strikes in Indonesia - Sabah

OPINION MAKERS

Verheugen holds 'minorities summit' at Fener Patriarchate -
Zaman

Verheugen: Adultery issue can only be a joke - Cumhuriyet

Powell: Genocide carried out in Darfur - Zaman

US wants Sudan's oil - Yeni Safak

US Democrats liken Bush to Hitler - Yeni Safak

Barzani vows to fight for Kirkuk - Cumhuriyet

US bombs 'rebel' cities in Iraq - Radikal

Zawahiri defies Washington on Al-Jazeera - Radikal

Israel will exile Arafat - Yeni Safak

BRIEFING

EU expansion chief's Turkey visit: European Union enlargement commissioner Guenter Verheugen finished his visit to Turkey on Thursday after holding a series of meetings with Kurdish activists, Christian and Jewish leaders, and government officials in various Turkish provinces. Verheugen warned Ankara that more work needs to be done to end torture, improve cultural rights and resolve the standoff in Cyprus. Verheugen said there has been no visible effort to encourage the return of displaced people to their villages in southeastern Turkey. On Thursday, Verheugen discussed the problems of minorities in Turkey with Christian, Jewish, and Syriac representatives in Istanbul. Religious and minority leaders told Verheugen that Turkey's EU accession would enrich the European bloc. Verheugen also warned the ruling AK Party against any effort to criminalize adultery. He stressed that such an effort would give the impression that Turkey is injecting Islamic elements into its legal system and thereby increase objections to Turkey's aspiration to be granted a date for entry talks. Meanwhile, FM Abdullah Gul said Thursday that he is certain that the EU Commission's progress report on Turkey would be positive. 'Turkey will make the EU richer, bigger, and add a dynamic population and economy' to the EU, Gul said.

U.S. Forces Bomb Turkmen Area in northern Iraq: "Milliyet" and "Cumhuriyet" report that U.S. forces bombed targets in the majority-Turkmen city of Tel Afer on Thursday.

According to "Milliyet," 57 people were killed and more than 80 wounded in the attacks. The ethnic identities of those killed and injured could not be determined. Papers also report U.S. bombing raids against resistance targets in Fellucca which resulted in 12 deaths, including 5 children. More extreme press outlets likened the US raids to last week's attack on school children in north Ossetia.

Barzani claims Kirkuk: Iraqi Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) leader Massoud Barzani said to a foreign news service on Thursday that Kurds would go to war to preserve the Kurdish identity of the city of Kirkuk, which Barzani characterized as 'the heart of Kurdistan.' The Kurds aim to reclaim Kirkuk, the oil-rich northern Iraqi town they lost during Saddam Hussein's 'Arabization' campaign, before a nationwide census to be held in Iraq later this year. FM Gul warned visiting KDP official Necirvan Barzani earlier this week against attempts to turn Kirkuk into a Kurdish

city. 153,000 Kurds have flocked to Kirkuk and its surroundings since March, papers note.

Syria hands over PKK militants to Turkey: Syria handed over seven captured Kurdish PKK fighters to Turkish authorities, "Sabah" reports. The suspects include PKK leader Hamili Yildirim, a founding member of the PKK who served 16 years in a Turkish jail for his prior PKK activities. Yildirim and the other six men were captured by Syrian security forces while trying to infiltrate Turkey. "Sabah" also reports that the Dutch government has agreed to comply with Turkey's extradition request for the return of PKK militant Nuriye Kesbir, who was captured by Dutch authorities in Amsterdam in 2001.

Mehmet Ali Birand Under Investigation: "Sabah" reports that prominent journalist Mehmet Ali Birand is under investigation on suspicion of 'aiding and abetting' a terrorist organization. The allegations stem from the appearance of three lawyers for jailed PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan on Birand's "32nd Day," a weekly program that airs on the all-news channel "CNN-Turk."

EDITORIAL OPINION: 9/11-Global war on Terorism

"Only Terrorism has Become Global" Mustafa Karaalioglu commented in the Islamist-opinion maker "Yeni Safak" (9/10): "The grip of terrorism is growing stronger with every passing day. Exploding bombs in almost every region of the world shows that it is impossible to establish international stability within the framework of democracy and the rule of law. The preventive strike policies that have appeared in order to combat terrorism have also made it more difficult to establish security. Before the bloody marks of the incident in Ossetia have faded, the new terrorist attacks in Indonesia are a further sign of the global spread of this threat. Today, the possibility of a terrorist attack in another country or on another continent is larger than it was yesterday. Being a woman, a child, or an innocent civilian no longer offers any protection from terrorist attacks any more. On the contrary, terrorism picks the most innocent targets to wound more deeply. Moreover, not only terrorist organizations but also states prefer these cruel methods. It is certain that each attack will be more dramatic than the one before as long as the world prefers to fight instead of solving these problems through dialogue."

"September 11, 2001" Yilmaz Oztuna opined in the conservative-mass appeal "Turkiye" (9/10): "Tomorrow is the third anniversary of September 11 tragedy. This is the date that the global fight against terrorism began. Terrorists started the war. One should never forget this fact. The ones who forgot it will divert in the wrong direction. The third millennium began with this terrible incident. Unfortunately, more than the half of the world's population believes that the treasures of the world are owned by a happy and selfish minority. This happy minority believed it was unfair for energy resources to be left in the land of poor people. The reason that terrorism has spread this widely is because some countries are not taking concrete measures to stop it. As a matter of fact, many countries use terrorism against their rival and enemies. Until these countries that support terrorism are exposed, the terrorists manage to take their actions further. The world is being divided into two: those determined to fight against terrorism, and those who support and use terrorists and increase their hostility against the countries involved in counter-terrorism efforts."

EDELMAN